United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Field Office
Cooperating with Michigan Department of Agriculture and
Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service

Michigan Crop Weather

MI-CW2210 June 1, 2010

Hot and Dry

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 30, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.03 inches in the west central Lower Peninsula to 1.06 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 10 degree above normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 13 degrees above normal in the northeast Lower Peninsula. Planting and growing conditions were good this week. Above average temperatures put most farm activities ahead of schedule. "What a great week to be a farmer! The crops loved the heat; you could almost see and hear the corn grow," stated one reporter from central Michigan. Bright sunshine with light winds helped growers catch up on spraying. A grower in northwest region reported, "It has been hot and dry. The corn looks good because we had hot weather to germinate it. Now we need an inch or two of rain."

Field Crops

Above average temperatures across much of the state aided crop development. **Wheat** quickly headed out. Wheat was in Feekes growing stages 8 to 10 with some fields starting to flower. There were also some reports of powdery mildew in the lower canopy and of leaf rust. **Oat** and **barley** stands were in good shape, and herbicide applications were being made. Most oats were in Feekes growing stage 7. **Corn** was in growth stages ranging from V2 to V4 and had greened up nicely. Some fields have been and will be replanted due to ponding. Nitrogen side-dressing and weed spraying occurred. **Soybean** planting continued where soil condition allowed. Advanced fields were in growth stage V2. In the Thumb, bean leaf beetles were present but at low levels. First cuttings of **alfalfa** continued as conditions permitted. Dairy farmers were harvesting alfalfa for green chop. There were reports of potato leafhoppers in the southeast. **Sugarbeet** development continued, but stands were uneven. At this time, moisture is not a major factor but will become one as the crop advances. **Drybean** planting continued.

Fruit

Growing degree days were about 8 to 10 days ahead of normal around the state. **Apples** ranged from fruit size 6 to 8 mm in the northwest to 20 to 24 mm in diameter in the southeast. The rains last week increased the potential for apple scab infection. Codling moth emerged in high numbers. The variable crop has been making thinning decisions difficult. **Peaches** ranged from fruit size 12 to 14 mm in the west central and southeast to 14 to 18 mm in diameter in the southwest. European **plums** were at 7 mm in the northwest, and fruit was 12 to 16 mm in diameter in the southeast and southwest. **Strawberries** ranged from full bloom in the northwest to thimble-sized fruit and thumb-sized fruit in the southeast and southwest; the largest fruit were three-quarters of an inch long in the southwest. **Sweet cherries** were at fruit size 11 to 12 mm in diameter in the northwest; fruit size was 14 mm in diameter and pits were hard in the southwest. **Tart cherries** ranged from fruit size 10 to 11 mm fruit in the northwest and west central to 11 to 14 mm in diameter in the southeast. **Pears** were at 10 mm in diameter in the northwest and 16 to 18 mm in diameter in the southwest. Pears were generally scarce throughout the state. **Blueberries** were at petal fall and beginning the green fruit stage in the southeast and Grand Rapids area. Bloom was ending with most varieties having small green fruit in the southwest. **Grapes** had 1 to 3 inch shoots in the northwest; shoots were 9 to 15 inches long with flowers beginning to separate in the southwest. Summer **raspberries** were in full bloom.

Vegetables

Above average temperatures aided vegetable growth last week. **Onions** and **carrots** were progressing well, and only onions that were hit by frost in early May were showing signs of stress. In the Grand Rapids area, **celery** was growing rapidly and transplanting continued. Processing **winter squash** planting continued. **Radishes, parsnips, turnips**, and **red beets** looked healthy. **Cabbage** was progressing well and transplanting continued. There were no significant reports of insect or disease problems. **Asparagus** harvest continued with growers picking daily. There were reports of asparagus beetles in the southwest. In the southwest, **tomatoes**, **zucchini, yellow squash,** and **cucumbers** were growing in the open, as protective covers have been removed. Tomatoes were staked and tied. Zucchini and yellow squash were flowering. **Peppers**, tomatoes, and **other vine crops** were getting established under plastic in the Grand Rapids area. Tomatoes and peppers were transplanted in the southeast. In the Thumb, cucumber for pickle planting continued. Emerged fields were being monitored. **Sweet corn,** peppers**, eggplant, watermelon,** and **cantaloup** planting continued. Early-planted sweet corn was about a foot tall, with improved color. Later planted fields were emerging. **Peas** had one inch pods and were about a foot tall. **Pumpkin** fields were being prepared. **Cole** crops were forming heads in the southeast.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/30/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Topsoil	4	15	65	16
Subsoil	1	13	72	14

Crop condition for week ending 05/30/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All Hay	1	6	20	54	19
Barley	1	1	41	51	6
Corn	0	6	26	51	17
Oats	0	2	27	56	15
Pasture	2	4	27	43	24
Winter Wheat	1	2	16	62	19

Crop progress for week ending 05/30/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All hay, first cutting	32	10	12	18
Asparagus, harvested	69	NA	42	53
Barley, planted	99	98	95	96
Barley, emerged	94	92	83	82
Corn, planted	93	85	89	94
Corn, emerged	80	63	55	69
Dry beans, planted	23	2	5	7
Oats, emerged	100	95	78	92
Oats, headed	5	0	1	5
Potatoes, planted	93	79	87	85
Potatoes, emerged	68	27	46	44
Soybeans, planted	73	50	59	77
Soybeans, emerged	45	22	23	38
Strawberries, harvested	6	NA	NA	1
Winter wheat, headed	65	8	22	33

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Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/30/10 [1]

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days [2]			Precipitation					
											Normal	
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	87	46		466	299		0.43	0.46	1.99	3.10		
Marquette	90	48		445	222		0.43	0.46	1.99	3.10		
Stephenson	90	43		530	334		0.70	0.71	2.07	2.88		
Western UP	90	38	11	468	265	302	0.45	0.47	1.89	3.05	5.65	3.37
Cornell	85	48		458	281		0.48	0.49	1.67	2.10		
Sault St Marie	86	49		467	211		0.11	0.11	1.05	2.26		
Eastern UP	88	47	12	437	218	209	0.35	0.35	1.48	2.43	5.44	3.01
Beulah	88	52		550	362		0.02	0.04	2.23	6.32		
Lake City	87	51		522	363		0.26	0.62	2.20	6.36		
Old Mission	92	48		524	306		0.30	0.52	2.41	5.49		
Pellston	89	49		527	296		0.00	0.02	1.58	2.76		
Northwest	92	48	12	511	317	361	0.12	0.28	2.11	5.08	5.30	2.61
Alpena	89	51		501	333		0.00	0.33	2.44	4.83		
Houghton Lake	87	50		552	358		0.25	0.56	1.84	4.26		
Rogers City	90	51		470	332		0.18	0.25	2.39	4.73		
Northeast	90	50	13	530	343	336	0.25	0.55	2.16	4.58	5.28	2.76
Fremont	91	55		601	414		0.00	0.26	2.07	4.66		
Hart	88	52		555	385		0.06	0.34	1.58	4.30		
Muskegon	87	62		606	430		0.00	0.26	2.20	4.96		
West Central	91	49	12	577	412	413	0.03	0.38	2.01	4.77	5.83	2.67
Alma	89	57		617	410		1.17	1.92	4.39	8.65		
Big Rapids	91	54		567	420		0.38	0.84	4.18	7.53		
Central	91	54	13	590	412	449	0.83	1.25	3.77	6.97	5.86	2.79
Bad Axe	89	54		574	384		2.13	2.18	4.59	6.26		
Pigeon	90	55		584	372		0.53	0.92	3.14	5.17		
Saginaw	89	60		641	420		0.47	0.75	3.11	5.57		
Standish	89	52		559	386		2.14	2.57	4.56	7.70		
East Central	90	52	12	562	389	430	1.06	1.33	3.81	6.51	5.18	2.63
Fennville	90	54		616	455		0.58	1.25	4.05	6.86		
Grand Rapids	90	58		680	505		0.40	0.92	3.77	8.10		
Holland	90	58		686	506		1.26	1.86	6.50	9.76		
South Bend, IN	89	54		688	555		1.13	2.19	5.58	9.13		
Watervliet	89	56		658	501		0.72	1.37	4.06	7.22		
Southwest	91	52	10	660	508	485	0.71	1.33	4.05	7.23	6.42	3.01
Belding	93	53		602	422		1.62	2.00	4.19	8.03		
Coldwater	91	59		678	534		2.13	3.95	6.21	9.54		
Lansing	88	57		656	461		0.08	0.72	3.91	6.93		
South Central	93	52	11	635	481	485	0.70	1.54	4.45	7.67	6.11	2.92
Detroit	88	60		704	548		0.43	1.09	4.02	7.25		
Flint	88	56		647	473		0.06	0.61	3.54	7.52		
Romeo	89	50		608	462		0.84	0.85	3.58	8.29		
Tipton	88	56		647	519		0.67	2.85	6.42	10.26		
Toledo, OH	90	58		725	572		2.44	3.16	5.18	10.96		
Southeast	91	50	11	652	518	461	0.65	1.91	5.01	8.81	6.06	2.85

[1] Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

[2] Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.